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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

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September 10, 2008

The Honorable Michael B. Mukasey Attorney General United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Mukasey:

We write to request that you provide the Judiciary Committee with copies of the Attorney General's proposed new guidelines for the investigative activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) prior to our September 17 oversight hearing with FBI Director Robert Mueller.

We are grateful for the efforts you have made to discuss your plans with us, and for the efforts the Department of Justice (DOJ) has made to brief congressional staff on the guidelines and allow them to review the draft text. In its August 20 response to our letter requesting a delay in your approval and implementation of these guidelines, DOJ pointed to the September 17 hearing with Director Mueller as a key component of your plan to explain the new guidelines to the Committee. However, if Committee members do not have a copy of the proposed guidelines to prepare for and use at the hearing with Director Mueller, a meaningful exchange will be impossible. The complex and important issues that these guidelines raise, including the need for flexibility and clarity in investigations and concerns about ensuring protections of civil liberties and privacy, requires a specific and informed discussion that references the precise language, not generalities.

We understand that the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and the chairs of several of its subcommittees have requested that Director Mueller provide copies of the guidelines before his September 16 appearance before that committee. We share their request to provide copies of the guidelines to us no later than noon on Monday, September 15, so that we may prepare for and make best use of Director Mueller's appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sincerely,

PATRICK LEAHY

Chairman

ARLEN SPECTER Ranking Member

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cc: Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III